

Dear Chairman Powell, Members of the Commission

Relaxing the rules (the Television-Radio Cross-Ownership Rule; the Dual Network Rule; the Local Television Ownership Rule; and the National Television Ownership Rule, the Broadcast-Newspaper Cross-Ownership Rule and the Local Radio Ownership Rule) is counter productive to the stated goal of the FCC (to promulgate media ownership policies that promote competition, diversity and localism in today's media market).

It may well be true that further concentration of ownership in the media will lead to efficiencies and thus higher profits for the few large companies that end up as the "winners". However, the FCC, as any US Government public agency is charged with protecting the public interest, not the interests of private corporations. The public interest is not served by limiting access to and control of the airwaves to the largest and wealthiest corporations. This is in effect what your rules changes will do. If the FCC will not protect the public's interest what purpose does it serve?

Many troubling questions are being raised about this issue, and how the FCC is proceeding as far from the public's scrutiny as possible. This does not speak well for the future of democracy. I urge you to rethink the tenor and direction of your proposed rules changes. Please serve the public interest.

Sincerely

Robert Sylvester